

AIR POUCH

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FOREIGN SERVICE DESPATCH

FROM : AmEmbassy MOSCOW

1076

NO.

TO : THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE, WASHINGTON.

JUN 1 1962

DATE

REF :

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REC'D		6/5		AIR	ARMY	CIA	NAVY	OSD	NSA	USIA	PLEASE PASS TO POSTS LISTED 8 2-6						

SUBJECT:

Opening of Nonexistent Jewish Bookstore Announced

Radio Bucharest announced the opening of a "new Jewish bookshop" in Moscow on May 15 over its Yiddish Service to North America. The full text of the Rumanian broadcast, as monitored by FBIS, was as follows:

Jewish Bookshop - A new bookshop has been opened in Moscow at 6 six Kirov street. Not RPT not only are Yiddish books sold here, but Yiddish newspapers and periodicals from Poland, France, and the United States. There is great demand for the Soviet Yiddish journal "Sovietisch Hejmland" which is published in editions of 25,000 twentyfive thousand copies. During a two-week period, more than 500 five hundred copies of the works of great Soviet Jewish writer David Bergelson were sold. A large number of Yiddish books by other Soviet writers have also been sold. (Bucharest Yiddish North America 0230 GMT 15 May 1962)

Comment

There is no Jewish bookstore, either new or old, at 6 Kirov Street.

There are, however, 2 separate bookstores located at that address. One store (Number 120) is a large, general bookstore, the best of its kind in Moscow. Although it contains a large stock of Communist newspapers and magazines published outside the USSR, there is no Yiddish publication to be seen on its shelves. The second store at 6 Kirov Street

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REPORTER

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From Moscow

(Number 119) carries mainly publications produced by various non-Russian nationalities in their vernacular tongues. For the past several years it has stocked a few books in Yiddish, but no Yiddish newspapers and periodicals. The Embassy's Publications Officers who frequently visit the store were in it on May 31, 1962. There were at that time 2 Yiddish books on sale.

The Soviet Yiddish magazine referred to in the broadcast, Sovyetish Heimland, has its editorial office at 17 Kirov Street, several blocks away from the site of the imaginary Jewish bookstore.

For the Ambassador:

E. S. Staples

Eugene S. Staples
Counselor for Cultural Affairs

Department please pass to: Bucharest, Warsaw, Tel Aviv, Munich, Paris, and London.

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